



Town of Fairhaven Council on Aging

Fairhaven Council on Aging • 229 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA 02719
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Fairhaven Council on Aging • Board Meeting Minutes **March 13, 2023**

Present: Martha Reed, Robert Ryan, Susan Oiestad, Carol Burt
Absent: Lee Allaire & Joan Mello

- 1.) The meeting was legally posted on March 8, 2023
- 2.) The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:03 am.
- 3.) Approval of the Minutes from February 13, 2023 will be moved to the April 10th meeting due to no quorum.

Financial Report:

COA Budget total: \$199,944.00

February Expenditures: \$16,821.57

Old Business:

1. **Open Board Member Position's (1)-**
 - a. There will be a person who will go before the Select Board. Once completed, we will now have a 6 person board.

New Business:

1. **MA Conflict of Interest Training-**
 - a. Conflict of Interest is now being taken over by the State of MA. All Boards must comply. Board members will need to register online to do the course. If any help is needed, we will assist. Every year an acknowledgement must be completed and every 2 years is the test.

Director's Report

1. **Senior Center/Program Utilization:**

500 unduplicated persons attended events at the Senior Center in December for a total of 1,454 "swipes" for events last month. New Mass Health recertifications continue to keep SHINE counselors extremely busy. AARP Tax Prep services began in February and all appointments were utilized, and all remaining appointments through April 18th have been booked. We have been able to accommodate the cancellation list to fill in as necessary. Those who are put on the cancellation list are also given referrals to the other two agencies in the area that are also providing free tax preparation (PACE and CEDAC).
2. **Transportation Utilization:** 232 Rides were provided to 83 seniors in February (20% increase).

3. **Volunteers:** 15 Persons volunteered over 400 hours at the Senior Center in February. The value of these volunteer hours is over \$12,500.
4. **Community Needs:** The most significant community needs remain housing and food security. 2 persons were assisted with housing applications and information; 12 seniors were helped with SNAP benefits. Due to the extra pandemic SNAP benefits ending in March, we have been reaching out to clients we've enrolled in SNAP to make sure they are receiving the maximum amount of benefits possible.
5. **In-person events:** Both Senior Supper Clubs were held in February, and were well attended. The COA hosted the Black History Month sponsored by the Belonging Committee on 2/23/23. The event was a great success and the COA is looking forward to future collaborations with the Belonging Committee, which includes a Women's History event in March, the April Food Day Drive and an Intergenerational Art Program in April.
6. **Social Day:** Please see attached report from Sally Bourke.
7. **Board Recruitment:** We have had one person come forward that is interested in joining the board. Her request has been forward to the Select Board for their review and approval. We are still looking for one more member.

Social Day Coordinator's Report

1. Current activities include Exercise, bingo, trivia, current events, puzzle group, horse race game, left, right center game, baking group, walking, and music with Judy & Barry DeRossi.
2. The craft group was very busy making various crafts such as "love shacks" made from milk cartons, "Love you to Pieces" wreath made out of puzzle pieces. They also painted flowers with spoons instead of brushes. In February, they also decorated coasters.
3. There was a Valentines Tea Party, celebrated Mardi-Gras. They also participated in a balance class with Moxie Mobility Training LLC.
4. Upcoming events include, a St. Patrick's Day Party with Corned Beef and Cabbage.
5. Total units served for the month was 93 with a client average of eight per day. Social Day was closed 1 day in February for President's Day.

Next Board of Directors Meeting

The next board meeting will take place on Monday April 10,2023

The meeting was adjourned 9:17AM

No motion to adjourn. No quorum.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jocelyn Bowers
Principal Office Assistant - Fairhaven COA